

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: S. KONDO, et al.  
Application No.: Rule 53(b) of No. 10/441,063  
Filed: April 16, 2004  
For: POLISHING METHOD  
Expected  
Group: 2812  
Expected  
Examiner: B. Tran

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 16, 2004

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application, prior to examination thereof,  
as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Specification; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.